

REMARKS

Claims 63-86 remain pending in the Application. Claims 63, 69, 77 and 82 are amended. Claims 1-62 were previously canceled without prejudice.

The Examiner rejected claims 69-76 and 82-86 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. The Examiner rejected claims 63-64, 66-72, and 74-86 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Knudson et al. (U.S. Patent Application No. 2005/0204388). The Examiner rejected claims 65 and 73 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knudson et al. in view of Boyer et al. (U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0026496). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants amend base claims 69 and 82 to address the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Support for the amendments is found at least in page 12, line 18 to page 14, line 21 of Applicants' specification. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the §112 rejection of these claims. Since claims 70-76 and 83-86 depend from and are limited by base claims 69 and 82, respectively, Applicants also request reconsideration and withdrawal of the §112 rejection of these claims. Applicants also amend base claims 63, 69, 77 and 82 to more clearly recite the claimed invention. Support for the amendments is found at least in page 24, lines 23-34, page 25, lines 1-12 and Figure 14 of Applicants' specification. No new matter is added by the foregoing amendments.

The invention, as recited in amended base claim 1, provides a method for receiving notifications for upcoming programs. In particular, "a list of a plurality of program titles" is displayed, where "each of the plurality of program titles is for an unscheduled program that is outside a program listings time frame that is currently available to a user." Information with "the plurality of program titles" is also displayed, where "the information informs the user that the unscheduled programs are outside the program listings time frame" and additionally "informs the user that the unscheduled programs are expected to be available at a later time." In addition, the user is provided "with the opportunity to select a program title from the displayed list of the plurality of program titles." A notification is subsequently provided to the user that indicates "the availability of the program corresponding to the selected program title when the corresponding program is now in the current program listings time frame."

Base claim 1 patently improves upon Knudson et al. because Applicant's claimed approach teaches the specific improvement of "providing the user with the opportunity to select a program title from a plurality of program titles for receiving a notification "of the availability of the program corresponding to the selected program title when the corresponding program is now in the current program listings time frame." Each of the plurality of program titles "is for an unscheduled program" that is outside the current program listings time frame. For example, as recited in page 24, lines 25-30 of Applicants' specification, "the program guide can display a coming soon display screen, such as coming soon display screen 138 of FIG. 14. Display screen 138 can contain a list of programs ... that are not yet within the current time frame of the program guide." In addition, "when the user selects a program from the list, the program guide can display a notification display screen for the program." Knudson et al. merely recite an option which "may contain selections that allow the user to set reminders for new (i.e., first-run) episodes, rerun episodes, network episodes, syndicated episodes, only previously unviewed episodes, or all scheduled episodes whether first-run, rerun, network, syndicated, or previously unviewed." Applicants' claimed invention goes beyond that of simply setting reminders for multiple related programs, it provides the improvement of enabling a user to select a single program from a plurality of unscheduled programs and set notification of availability for that selected program, as provided in base claim 1.

Since Knudson et al. do not teach each and every element of amended base claim 1. Applicants submit that the §102(e) rejection of base claim 1 should be withdrawn. While the scope of amended base claims 69, 77 and 82 may differ from base claim 1, these claims similarly provide for allowing a user to select an unscheduled program from a plurality of unscheduled programs for receiving notification of availability of the selected program. Hence, the same remarks above for base claim 1 also apply to base claims 69, 77 and 82. Thus, for the same reasons as those above for base claim 1, the §102 rejection of base claims 69, 77 and 82 should be withdrawn.

Because claims 64, 66-68, 70-72, 74-76, 78-81, and 83-86 depend from, and are limited by base claims 63, 69, 77, and 82 respectively, the §102 Rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

Claims 65 and 73 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Knudson et al. in view of Boyer et al. For at least the foregoing reasons with respect to base claims 63 and

69, the combination of Knudson et al. with Boyer et al. fails to teach or suggest all of the elements of base claims 63 and 69, and consequently, dependent claims 65 and 73. Accordingly, the Examiner has failed to make a prima facie case of obviousness for claims 65 and 73. Therefore, the §103 Rejection of claims 65 and 73, which depend from base claims 63 and 69, respectively, should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicants believe no additional fee is due with this response other than as reflected on the enclosed Amendment Transmittal. However, if additional fees are due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-1075, under Order No. UV-98 (003597-0098) from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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